AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly cancel claims 24 and 26, and amend claims 23, 25, and 27 as provided in the following Claims Listing.

Claims Listing:

Claims 1-22 (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of a pathology associated with the constriction of smooth muscle cells selected from arterial hypertension and asthma in a subject in need thereof, said method comprising administering to said subject a compound of formula (Ia):

$$R_{10}$$

$$R_{10}$$

$$R_{10}$$

$$R_{2}$$

$$R_{3}$$

$$R_{7}$$

$$R_{3}$$

$$R_{7}$$

$$R_{9}$$

$$R_{8}$$

$$R_{7}$$

$$R_{10}$$

in which:

- R₁ and R₂ represent a hydrogen atom,
- R_5 represents a hydrogen atom, or a linear or substituted alkyl group with 1 to 10 carbon atoms, or an ester of formula COOR' in which R' represents a linear or substituted alkyl group with 1 to 10 carbon atoms,
 - Y represents an -OH, -SH, or -NH2 group,
 - each of R₇, R₈, R₉, and R₁₀ is, independently, a hydrogen, chlorine, bromine, or

fluorine atom, and

- X represents an anion.
- 24. (Cancelled).
- 25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24 23, wherein said pathology is arterial hypertension.
 - 26. (Cancelled).
- 27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26 <u>23</u>, wherein said pathology is asthma.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein X is chloride, bromide, or perchlorate.
 - 29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein R₅ is a butyl group.
 - 30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein R' is an ethyl group.
- 31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said compound of formula (Ia) is selected from the following compounds:

compound 13 (MPB-01)

compound 11 (MPB-26)

3

compound 14 (MPB-02)

$$Cl$$
 N^{+}
 NH_{2}
 NH_{2}

compound 16

compound 15 (MPB-03)

compound 17

compound 24

compound 12 (MPB-05)

compound 18 (MPB-06)

4

compound 19 (MPB-07)

compound 21 (MPB-27)

compound 26 (MPB-29)

compound 20 (MPB-08)

compound 25 (MPB-30)

compound MPB-91

compound MPB 73

compound MPB 86

compound MPB 87

compound MPB 102

$$CI$$
 SH ; and

compound MPB 75

compound MPB 77

compound MPB 88

compound MPB 103

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said compound of formula (Ia) is MPB-07 of the following formula:

compound 19 (MPB-07)

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein said compound of formula (Ia) is MPB-91 of the following formula:

compound MPB-91

$$Cl$$
 Cl
 OH
 OH

34. (Previously Presented) A compound selected from:

compound MPB 73

compound MPB 75

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ \hline \\ Cl^{-} & & \\ \hline \\ Cl^{-} & \\ \hline \\ OH & \\ \end{array};$$

compound MPB 86

compound MPB 87

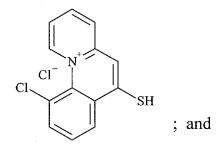
$$\begin{array}{c} & \\ & \\ Cl \\ & \\ OH \end{array}; \text{ and }$$

compound MPB 77

compound MPB 88

35. (Previously Presented) A compound selected from:

compound MPB 102



compound MPB 103

- 36. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 34 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 37. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 35 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.